



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

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February 5, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

## **THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES' REQUEST TO APPOINT MR. ARIES LIMBAGA TO THE POSITION OF CHIEF NURSING OFFICER II**

The Department of Health Services (DHS), with the support of the Chief Executive Office, requests approval to appoint Mr. Aries Limbaga to the position of Chief Nursing Officer II, at an annual base salary of \$170,606.88. The base salary placement for Mr. Limbaga onto Management Appraisal and Performance Plan Tier II Salary Range S17, Step 7, the Board approved range for this position, will place Mr. Limbaga in the second quartile of this range. Based on Mr. Limbaga's extensive nursing experience and the role and responsibilities he will be assuming, this is an appropriate salary placement.

As Chief Nursing Officer, Mr. Limbaga will report directly to the Chief Executive Officer of Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center (RLARC), Jorge Orozco, and be responsible for the day to day nursing activities at this facility, which includes over 500 registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, and support staff. More specifically, Mr. Limbaga will be responsible for the safe and appropriate delivery of patient care by the nursing department, which involves overseeing nursing care activities of a 395 licensed bed medical center currently budgeted for approximately 189 average daily census, providing care to over 4,000 inpatient admissions annually and over 80,000 outpatients annually. Additionally, Mr. Limbaga will be responsible for ensuring the facility is in compliance with State regulations regarding nurse staffing ratios as well as Title 22, Joint Commission, and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) requirements.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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Mr. Limbaga is a clinician with over 15 years of experience in the field of nursing. In the position of Chief Clinical Officer at RLARC, Mr. Limbaga has made some major improvements to the department including increasing the average daily census from 170 to 183 in 2010; increasing Contracted Insurance admissions by two million dollars within six months of contract implementation; decreasing denied days from a high of 17% in 2005 to 4% in 2012; implementing strategies to reduce Antibiotic cost per patient day from \$25 in 2009 to \$11 in 2011; and leading an effort to complete CARF Accreditation for the following specialties: General Inpatient Adult, Stroke Specialty, Pediatric Specialty, Spinal Cord System of Care, Inpatient Brain Injury, and Medical Rehabilitation Case Management.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Limbaga has held a number of responsible positions at RLARC including Assistant Nurse Director, Clinical Manager, Assistant Nurse Manager, Nurse Practitioner, and Registered Nurse Team Leader. Mr. Limbaga earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in Nursing from California State University Long Beach and is certified as a Registered Nurse in the fields of Public Health and Rehabilitation and as a Nurse Practitioner in the field of Adult Geriatrics. Additionally, Mr. Limbaga earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of California Irvine with an emphasis on Healthcare.

In 2006 and 2007, Mr. Limbaga was president of the Los Angeles and Orange County Chapter of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses. In 2005, Mr. Limbaga was president of the Northern California Chapter of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses. In 2002, the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services rewarded Mr. Limbaga with an award for "Nurse of the Year."

In accordance with policy on managerial appointments, unless otherwise instructed by the Board by February 20, 2013, the Chief Executive Office will advise the DHS that authorization has been granted to proceed with Mr. Limbaga's appointment to Chief Nursing Officer II, at an annual base salary of \$170,606.88 effective no sooner than February 21, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Steve Masterson at (213) 974-8481.

WTF:BC  
SM:AP:ra

c: Department of Health Services  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel